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January 14, 2005

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station – 2nd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: D.T.E. 03-88A, D.T.E. 03-88B, D.T.E. 03-88C, D.T.E. 03-88D, D.T.E. 03-88E
and D.T.E. 03-88F, Costs To Be Included in Default Service Rates

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

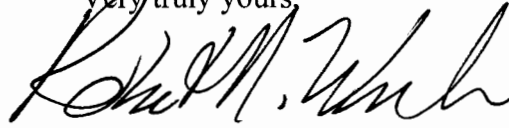
I am writing on behalf of Boston Edison Company, Commonwealth Electric Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, Massachusetts Electric Company, Nantucket Electric Company, Western Massachusetts Electric Company and the Attorney General to request that the briefing schedule in the above-referenced cases be suspended so that a settlement agreement can be filed with and considered by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department"). On January 13, 2005, the above-named parties distributed a draft settlement agreement to the other parties in the case that would resolve all outstanding issues and conclude the proceedings. In order to permit other parties to consider the draft settlement and decide whether to join in filing a settlement agreement, we propose that additional time be permitted in the Department's procedural schedule.

Accordingly, the above-named parties propose that they be granted until January 21, 2005 to file a settlement agreement in these proceedings. By that date, a settlement agreement will be filed by all or some of the parties to the cases. In anticipation of that filing and the Department's consideration of the settlement, we respectfully request that the briefing schedules for the cases be suspended. I have been authorized to represent that, in addition to the above-named parties, the following other entities assent to the proposed suspension of the briefing schedule: Association Industries of Massachusetts, Cape Light Compact, Centrica North America, Constellation/New Energy, Inc., Dominion Retail, Inc. and Select Energy, Inc.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert N. Werlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being the most prominent part.

Robert N. Werlin

cc: John Geary, Hearing Officer
Service Lists